

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY. Editor: H. H. WHEATLEY. General Business Manager: F. G. MARTIN. Published daily at 1200 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULATION OF THE EVENING LEDGER FOR NOVEMBER WAS 121,941 Philadelphia, Wednesday, December 27, 1916.

Law is nothing but a correct principle drawn from the inspiration of the gods, commanding what is honest, and forbidding the contrary.—Cicero.

Does the unwillingness of the legislators to formulate peace terms mean that they do not know what they are fighting for?

How much longer will the Reading Railway be allowed to kill persons at the Ford street crossing in Norris town?

It was a pity that some of the presents sent out from "a sense of duty" could not have been held up by the Christmas congestion of mails instead of pardons for convicts.

Luminous hats for men and women have been introduced in London for wear in the darkened streets at night.

A decline in the minor vice of Harvard men is indicated by the annual figures of the Harvard Union. They smoke less and they read less.—News Item.

Perhaps the Englishmen will now understand what an American means when he speaks of being lit up.

A decline in the minor vice of Harvard men is indicated by the annual figures of the Harvard Union. They smoke less and they read less.—News Item.

Reading is included among the vices on the theory, doubtless, that, as Lord Verulam said, it makes a man full.

Senator Sprout calls Attorney General Brown a "political dreamer." Israel Durham never thought that Mr. Brown was that kind of a politician.

Not many persons outside of the immediate vicinity of St. Davids knew that every summer the lake on a big estate there was turned into a bathing pool for the people until the obituary of Charles S. Walton told of that and many other good works.

The demand of the Porto Ricans for citizenship is unanimous. It is endorsed by virtually every one who is familiar with the island and its people.

So far as appears, there is no valid reason for withholding this privilege. The present Congress will have many important matters to occupy its attention before it adjourns in March, but it ought to be able to find time to pass the Jones bill, which extends to the Porto Ricans all the constitutional privileges enjoyed by other American citizens under the territorial form of government.

John G. Johnson is too good a lawyer to favor loading Judges down with nonjudicial duties. The purpose of the law requiring the Judges to pass on applications for liquor licenses was to take the sponson out of politics, but its effect has been to foist politics into the courts.

Those who do not know by their own reasoning that a mistake has been made may be persuaded by the opinion of so high an authority as Mr. Johnson. But it does not make any difference how they are persuaded so long as they demand that the Judges be freed from their nonjudicial functions.

Word comes from Washington that the President will address Congress on the subject as soon as he makes up his mind what should be done to meet the rapidly increasing deficit. He doubtless knows that a bond issue would be only a temporary expedient and that, however he might attempt to gloss it over, he would subject himself to political attack if he advocated a loan. If, however, he should propose an increase in the duties on imports and an addition to the number of dutiable articles no one would seriously object. He might even say he was asking for a tariff for revenue only without challenging much criticism.

Nobody cares what you call a protective tariff so long as it protects. Events are likely to force Mr. Wilson to demand more revenue from the tariff. His high mind has been leading him in that direction for several months.

It is estimated by the Interstate Commerce Commission that the net income of the railroads for the current year will amount to a billion dollars, or an increase of forty-five per cent over the average for the previous three years. One year of great prosperity, however, is not enough to recoup the roads for the ten years of the past. They need a billion dollars—some authorities place the sum at two billion—for betterments

In the immediate future. Under the constant attack of legislatures and Congress they have found it difficult to secure money on favorable terms, and it has been necessary to postpone improvements. Right here in Philadelphia the long-contemplated rebuilding of the Broad Street Station has had to be postponed. No one knows when it will be undertaken. The rolling stock on scores of roads throughout the country needs replacing. New rails need to be laid, and there is a demand for higher wages for the men. The money for wages must be earned and the interest on the money borrowed for improvements must be paid by the people who use the roads. All this means there must be a long-continued increase in the net earnings unless the roads are to be bankrupted. Yet we are likely to be told that in view of the splendid earnings of the current year the railroads are in good condition to face the future. They are certainly in better condition than last year, but we must let them continue to prosper if the rest of us are to get the best service from them.

THE INCURABLES A SURGICAL operation may change an abnormal boy into a normal one. No follower of Aesculapius, however, has discovered how to change a spoils politician into a good citizen—perhaps because the only way to effect a cure is to amputate the head just above the shoulders.

THE ISSUE OF THE SHEEHAN FEES NO ONE should make the mistake of assuming that the only question involved in the suit over the fees of the Register of Wills is whether Mr. Sheehan shall receive \$190,000 for four years' service.

The important question is whether the General Assembly has constitutional power to make laws for the relief of this city different from the laws that affect other cities of the Commonwealth. Philadelphia has three times the population of any other Pennsylvania city. It is the only city in the State whose boundaries are coterminous with those of the county in which it is situated. Its problems are, therefore, unique. If the Constitution stands in the way of their unique treatment by the General Assembly, that fact must be made known at the earliest possible moment in order that the Constitution may be amended.

The Register of Wills salary act, which provides that in counties with a population in excess of 1,500,000 the Register shall receive a salary of \$10,000 and that the fees shall be turned over to the County Treasurer, is now said by the Constitution forbids the General Assembly to enact any special or local law affecting the affairs of counties. When the Supreme Court passes upon this question we shall know where we stand. Then those who believe this city should be freed from the trammels which bind it will be in a position to frame a program of legislation or constitutional amendment calculated to accomplish the ends sought.

NEARING A SHOWDOWN FOR the moment the international peace-or-war brainstorm has narrowed to a battle of wits between Mr. Wilson and the Kaiser. Unfair as it may have been to Mr. Wilson's diction to interpret his phrase to the effect that statements on both sides professed the same humanitarian motives as if he had said both sides really had the same motives, Germany has promptly snatched at this interpretation, which so maddened England. Her answer to Mr. Wilson is advanced in the same spirit as it would have been if Mr. Wilson had condoned the crime against Belgium. "Certainly," Germany replies to America, "we have signed no more than the Allies. We desire an immediate meeting of delegates of the belligerent States at a neutral place." She is ready to send a corps of delegates to The Hague or Port-au-Prince, N. H., at a moment's notice.

Superficially and at first glance the worst suspicions of the frantic element in English opinion have been confirmed. The stage is set for a German-American peace move. But this frantic element has not prevailed in London. Sober English opinion now looks upon Mr. Wilson's "putting of Germany on a moral par with the Allies" as a challenge to her to make good her high professions of justice toward the small nations. Germany, mad for swift peace at "the psychological moment," would rush to the council table without washing her hands of the Belgian crime. Is Mr. Wilson now to encourage her to sit at what would be for Germany a festive board without attending to that formality?

Mr. Wilson's note said: "The President is not proposing peace; he is not even offering mediation." He is thus in excellent position to say to Germany: "Not so fast! The specific terms upon which you would make peace are all we want to know." Such terms are said to have been handed by Germany in a sealed packet to neutral nations to be forwarded to the Entente only if asked for, and if not asked for, returned unopened. If true, this proposition is the exact opposite of what is desired by the spirit of the American note. There is, no more reason to try to keep the object in continued fighting a secret than it would be to try to keep the invasion of Belgium secret, or England's desire for the German colonies, or France's demand for Alsace-Lorraine secret. Most of the terms are indicated on the map, and the thing to do is either to avow them or repudiate them.

Technically, we still await England's answer to our note as well as Germany's. Practically, we got England's answer before our note was sent, in England's interpretation of Lloyd George's speech as a war-to-a-finish speech. Practically, Mr. Wilson's position is now that of trying to force the Kaiser either to come out publicly with a war-to-a-finish speech or to make a proposal of specific terms. If no terms are forthcoming, we must imply that Germany, too, is for war to a finish. The neutral nations will not be in the dark than about the future. They will know, if the present peace talk is stopped, that the next time peace negotiations are suggested they will come from a nation that knows it is defeated.

Tom Daly's Column DREAMING I hate to read of millionaires, Because such reading seems To hypnotize me utterly And start me dreaming dreams. How many times I've figured out What I'd be apt to do If I were in that fellow's place And had a million, too. Of course, I'd use my fortune well; More sensibly than he, For I'd give ten per cent at least To worthy charity. Another ten per cent would go To help along a few Of my deserving relatives Whose bills are overdue. And then my duty to the church; Of course, a goodly share— Say, twenty-five per cent or so— Would be devoted there. I'd give this latter quietly, Insisting that my name Must be withheld, that none might know Whence this donation came. I'd only let the pastor know— He'd have to know, you see, Because my name upon the check Would show it was from me. Another twenty-five per cent Would do myself and wife; The income would derive from that Would keep us both for life. Then, after that—well, after that I dream away and plan To spend still other ten per cent To help my fellowman. And finally my dreaming gets A bit confused, and then I take a tumble and my feet Touch solid earth again; And common sense assures me as It stops me with a jerk, I've wasted time enough to do A dollar's worth of work.

Kute Kid Stuff Ziegler, the Cayuga street barber, tells this of one of his young patrons: "They tell me, sonny," said Ziegler, "that you're the only child in your house."

"Yep." "That must be fine; you get all the cake and pie and everything good."

"A NEW BROOM SWEEPS CLEAN" It was just yesterday That I heard a very nice New broom sweeps clean. Do you see? Is the worst kind of junk Any I don't believe it—no one. Now I'm telling you right, Though maybe it might Go over your head like a shirt. If you're sweeping a room An' you're usin' a broom, What you're sweepin' ain't clean, it is dirt. P. NUT.

In Canyon City, Colorado, a tourist tells us there is a hotel which advertises thus: Dinner, 50 cents. Square meal, 75 cents. Royal Gorge, \$1.00.

A Character I come to town on a train that stops at many stations. At one of them the highway curves round past the freight tracks so that commuters climb through a hole in the fence and take advantage of the short cut. Every morning as the train comes into the station I look up the road, and every morning Gustavus is coming down through it. He is always at exactly the same point, unless the train is not on time, and he walks calmly, with a dignity worthy of a king or a bishop. He never, never hurries. If the train is a second or two ahead of time he glances at his watch, to confirm the fact, of which he is already absurdly sure. He simply raises his eyebrows deservingly. But he does not hurry. He will be there on time. And his foot in on the car step at precisely the instant the signal is given to start.

Of course, the train is late sometimes—and then he stands on the platform, apart, majestic, his soul removed from such petty annoyances. If he had not the care of the universe on his shoulders he would take a day off and so arrange matters that no train would ever be late again. He never smiles, he never sees his fellow travelers, he is a man apart, above—dignified by perfect dress, by perfect bearing, by perfect men. KRAB.

"THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD" The guy that had used to talk about the mighty pen. He didn't wear no sword and walk ahead of soldier men. I'll bet a hat you own a lot of pens that like to roam. The best darn sword on earth'll not, Like pens, keep pigs at home. P. NUT.

COUCH makers wanted on plain couches. D. Becker, 437 N. American st. None on the hoof need apply.

Spinster Bereavements Teddy was my Quaker beau, Whose proposal made me roar; "Prithce," said he, bending low, "Tell me, who does Theodore?" PL.

Useless & Truthless Signs & Sayings "Shoes mended while you wait." "Helling out below cost." "Teeth extracted without pain." "Four barbers. No waiting." "Tipping prohibited." "Newly furnished throughout." (Seashore hotel). BILL YUS.

Inscription for a Fireplace I'm Home's heart! Warmth I give and light If you but feed me. I blossom in the winter night, When most you need me.

To melt your cares, to warm your guest My cheer's supplied you; But, oh! to know me at my best, Hold Her beside you!

A Romance of Youth There was a fair young maiden, And she stood upon the stair; "Come down, Marie," her mother sweetly cried, "Now she was young and foolish, So she thought of care, So she climbed down the balustrade all slide." II.

There was a youth distinguished, And he called upon the maid; "Come down, Marie," he called to her; "Now she was young and foolish, So she thought of care, So she climbed down the balustrade all slide." III.

The young man's heart beat rapidly, And she came to the door; "Come down, Marie," he called to her; "Now she was young and foolish, So she thought of care, So she climbed down the balustrade all slide." IV.

United States Warships U. S. N.—The total number of navy vessels in service under construction and authorized at the beginning of the present year, was: First-class battleships, 41; armored cruisers, 15; cruisers, first class, 9; cruisers, second class, 41; destroyers, first class, 14; destroyers, second class, 19; submarines, 19; tenders to



What Do You Know?

Queries of general interest will be answered in this column. Ten questions, the answers to which every well-informed person should know, are asked daily.

- QUIZ 1. Who is Alberto Paul? 2. Of what land is Lloyd George a native? 3. There are two notable "Fashades" in the United States. Where are they? 4. What is the oldest institution of learning in the United States? 5. For what product is Yucatan famous? 6. Who is the ranking officer of the United States army? 7. What American statesman was instrumental in negotiating the purchase of Alaska? 8. Who wrote "Crossing the Bar"? 9. What English seer said that the word "Balance" was written on her forehead? 10. What is the kinship between the English King and the Russian Czar?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. Essen is a town in the Prussian Rhine province. It is the home of the famous Krupp works. 2. The Landthorn and the Folketing are the houses of parliament in Denmark. 3. The superintendent of the United States Military Academy at West Point is Colonel John Hildre. 4. William C. Coker is a Pennsylvania State Senator from Delaware County who has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for Governor. 5. Neal Dow (1804-97) was a temperance reformer. He was the author of the prohibition law enacted by the State of Maine in 1819. He was also a prohibition candidate for President. 6. Electro-culture is the culture of plants under electric radiations. It is said to increase growth and larger production. Electric currents are used for irrigation and for the culture of plants. But the whole subject is still in the experimental stage. 7. The double-bass is the largest instrument of the violin family. It is the foundation of the orchestra, and is what is called by a soloist. It is also called the contrabass. 8. The Eskimos are between 62 and 64 inches in height. 9. Displacement is the weight of the bulk of water displaced by a floating object. In marine engineering, displacement is measured by the tonnage of a ship, which is the weight of the water displaced by the hull of the ship. 10. The average amount of wool and stores are on board.

Masurian Lakes H. W.—The Masurian Lake region lies in Masurienland, a gently rolling region of East Prussia marked by hundreds of lakes of various sizes connected by channels and canals. The system more than 100 miles long. Roughly, the area of the district is covered by the circles of Sensburg, Oletzka, Osterode, Allenstein, Rosenthal, Ortelsburg, Lyck (capital), and Neidenburg. The lakes are of different shapes, some being rounded and others basin, with numerous radiating branches; others are long, narrow channels winding into ponds at intervals like beads on a string. The lakes, Mauer and Spirding, cover forty square miles. The lakes form a very effective barrier for Germany against Russia, as was evidenced several times during the early part of the war, when the Russian armies were trapped there or forced to retreat. This bore out the wise opposition of Von Hindenburg and others against draining the lakes, a project considered by the German Government several years ago.

Japanese Policy H. P. H.—I was only recently that leaders of dominant political parties in Japan—Viscount Kato, Mr. Hara, and Mr. Inukai—came to an agreement as to Japan's future policy. The agreement was published last June in a simple declaration with three clauses: (1) We shall endeavor to formulate a definite foreign and military policy, and pledge ourselves to work together in carrying it out, regardless of the rise or fall of the parties in influence, and shall not allow outside domestic interference. (2) Japan's policy in China is to promote the mutual interests of the two countries for the purpose of maintaining permanent peace and friendship in the Far East. (3) National defense expenses are to be left to the Government's free disposal within the limits of the appropriations.

Very Good Eddie THE MUSICAL HIT OF THE YEAR KNICKERBOCKER Musical Comedy in 3 Acts "THE DAIRY FARM" Musical Comedy in 3 Acts

The Stanley PALACE 1214 MARKET 10 A. M. to 11:15 P. M. DAILY 10:30 A. M. to 11:15 P. M. CONTINUOUS—11:15 A. M. to 11:15 P. M. MARGUERITE CLARK in Grimm Classic "SNOW WHITE"

ARCADIA CHESTNUT Below 16TH 10 A. M. to 11:15 P. M. DAILY 10:30 A. M. to 11:15 P. M. EVENING 10:30 A. M. to 11:15 P. M. WILLIAM S. HART in First Presentation of "Truthful Tulliver"

REGENT MARKET BELOW 17TH 10 A. M. to 11:15 P. M. DAILY 10:30 A. M. to 11:15 P. M. EVENING 10:30 A. M. to 11:15 P. M. GAIL KANE and CARLYE BLACKWELL in "ON DANGEROUS GROUND"

BURTON HOLMES FRIDAY 8:15 CANADIAN SATURDAY 2:30 ROCKIES With the Famous Original N. Y. Cast

Walnut Pop. Mat. Tomorrow, 50c to \$1.15. Ever. & Sat. Mat., 50c to \$1.15. Saturday Night, 75c to \$2. LAST 7 TIMES—LAST 7 TIMES. Chaucey Olcott in "THE HEART OF PADDY WHACK"

Next Week THE IRISH ACTOR-SINGER in a New Play, "HIS HERKIE'S DESIRE"

Little Theatre 17th & De Lancey Phone for Seats Locust 6941 LAST WEEK! HURRY! "YOU NEVER CAN TELL" BY G. BERNARD SHAW See It Tonight!!!

Metropolitan Opera House THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 11, 8:15 CONCERT BY JOHN M. CORMACK Tickets, \$1.50, \$1 and 50c. Sale Opens at Metropolitan Ticket Office 1102 Chestnut St., Tuesday, January 9, 9 A. M. ORDERS RECEIVED NOW

Keith's Eddie Foy AND 7 YOUNGER FOLKS MRS. GENE HUGHES & CO. "OKLAHOMA BOY" ALRIGHT! RAY J. GORDON DOOLEY. OTHERS "GREAT NEWS ON BARK" NEW YEAR'S MATINEE AND NIGHT

ACADEMY OF MUSIC BOSTON Mon. Eve., Jan. 1, 8:15 LYRIC TONIGHT AT 8:15 Popular \$1.50 Mat. Today. THE VIENNESE OPERETTA DELIGHTFUL "THE BLUE PARADISE" WITH CECEL LEAN and ORIGINAL CAST "GREAT NEWS ON BARK" NEW YEAR'S MATINEE AND NIGHT

ADELPHI TONIGHT AT 8:15 Last Pop. \$1.50 Mat. Today. SPECIAL MATINEE FRIDAY MOST WONDERFUL PLAY IN AMERICA "EXPERIENCE"

VERY GOOD EDDIE THE MUSICAL HIT OF THE YEAR KNICKERBOCKER Musical Comedy in 3 Acts "THE DAIRY FARM" Musical Comedy in 3 Acts

WM. PENN LANCASTER AVE. BETWEEN 40TH AND 41ST MABEL ELAINE AND HER RAG-TIME BAND in "ON THE LEVEE"

Gallagher and Martin Seymour's Happy Family—Baby Elva Complete Change of Bill Thurs. Douglas Fairbanks in "MATRIMANIAC"

"TWO AND A HALF HOURS OF UNALLOYED DELIGHT" WITH MRS. FISKE AND ERSTWHILE SUSAN POPULAR MAT. TODAY 50c to \$1.50 Extra Matinee New Year's Day

FORREST—Matinee Today Eves. EXTRA MATINEE NEW YEAR'S DAY A Tremendous Triumph! GREATEST MUSICAL SHOW ON EARTH

THE COHAN REVUE 1916 With the Famous Original N. Y. Cast

GARRICK—Pop. Mat. Today 50c to \$1.50 EXTRA MATINEE NEW YEAR'S DAY SEVEN CHANCES Not Closer Magic's Sparkling Comedy.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY SOLOISTS—ELIZABETH PARKER, Soprano BEATRICE COLBY, Alto LAMBERT MURPHY, Tenor FRANK CROSTON, Bass AND Members PHILA. ORCHESTRA BERNARD SHAW, Conductor Seats, 10c, 25c, 50c, \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00.

STRAND Germantown Ave. at Venango St. PHILADELPHIA'S NEWEST THEATRE Seating Capacity 2500—EVENING Modern Comfort

GALA EVENING NEW YEAR'S AFTERNOON Vocal and Musical Entertainment ORCHESTRA 18 PIECES

GLOBE Theatre MARKET AND FAUBUSSE—Continuously 10c, 25c, 50c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00. A CLASSY MUSICAL PRODUCTION "BONNIE SEXTETTE" "The Broken Scales" and Others NEW YEAR'S EVE MIDDNIGHT Seats 10c

Cross Keys MARKET Below 67TH Daily, 2:30 EVENING, 7 and 9. "ON THE ROOP"—MILLY SMILEY & CO. OTHERS.

Victoria DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS "THE MATRIMANIAC" Thurs., Fri., Sat., Hotel Barrymore Musical, Philadelphia Seats 10c, 25c, 50c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00.

BELMONT 522 & MARKET ST. "The Black Battery" WED. MATINEE 2:30 THURS. MAT. 7:30, 9:30 SEASIDE BERNHARDT TONIGHT AT 8:30—RESCUE CHAMP "SHOOTING" Seats 10c, 25c, 50c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00.

LOCUST 530 & LOCUST STS. DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS "THE MATRIMANIAC" Seats 10c, 25c, 50c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00.

Coast to Coast Triumph Philadelphia Just Captured

"So great, so stupendous, so marvelous... so unique... The hugeness, the picturesqueness and the stirring action of the 'Birth of a Nation' seem almost trivial in comparison. 'It is awe-inspiring, it thrills, it dazzles, it grips the heart, it is superb, it is magnificent.' —Phila. Telegraph.

"A spectacle so overwhelmingly superior to anything before attempted, that for years others will be imitations. Its effect is beyond words... from horror, to surprise, to laughter, to cheers, to wonder... spectators breathless when curtain ends the picture." —Phila. Press.

"Exceeds any previous accomplishment of the stage or screen." —New York World.

"Soars to riotous limits." —San Francisco Chronicle.

"It discounts all else the theatre has known." —Chicago Journal.

"Superhuman — the greatest show in the world." —Chicago Examiner.

"'Colossal spectacle,' a fitting designation." —Phila. Inquirer.

"The audience continuously enthralled during three hours... surpasses anything yet attempted... —Phila. Record.

"From ancient Babylon to modern Coney Island... for once, extravagant phrases used in advance have been completely justified.

"Description of its magnitude and splendor seems impossible." —Phila. Bulletin.

"Large audience burst into spontaneous applause... near to superhuman... —Phila. North American.

"A Griffith triumph. 'Greatest in all respects which has yet been accomplished. Its sheer beauty cannot be surpassed.' —Phila. Public Ledger.

"Griffith's work stands supreme." —Phila. Evening Ledger.

Chestnut St. Opera House NOW

Owing to Magnitude of Production, Curtain Rises at 2:05 and 8:05 Sharp.

D. W. GRIFFITH'S Colossal \$2,000,000 Spectacle

Intolerance

Love's Struggle Throughout the Ages

125,000 People 7500 Horses 1200 Chariots

POSITIVELY SOMETHING NEW

Prices: Evenings, Holidays and Saturday Matinees, Lower Floor, 75c, \$1.00. Some \$1.50. First Balcony, 50c, \$1.00. Second Balcony, 25c.

Other Matinees: Lower Floor, 50c, 75c. Some \$1.00. First Balcony, 50c, 75c. Second Balcony, 25c.

IT COST 100 TIMES MORE THAN ANY \$2.00 ATTRACTION, SO SHOULD BE WORTH \$200.00 A SEAT.